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09/890,506	01/11/2002	Ebe Hesterman	F-7079	3548

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EXAMINER

EVANS HENCE, ANDREA

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2854

DATE MAILED: 08/12/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/890,506

Applicant(s)

HESTERMAN, EBE 

Examiner

Andrea A. Hence

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 5/21/03.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 16-22 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 and 16-22 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on *were not filed is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION- FINAL REJECTION

Drawings

1. For purposes of examination, Examiner used the drawings included in PCT WO 01/39976. The record shows that applicant has submitted drawings with the application. However, no drawings can be found in the application filewrapper. A new set of drawings will be required.
2. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on 5/21/03. These drawing will not be entered until formal drawings are filed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-7, 12, 16-18, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer (4493255) in view of Germann (5136942).

Referring to claim 1, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine (See Figure 1) for printing sheets, comprising a feed system (29); an output system (b) a single central counter pressure cylinder (23) disposed between said feed system and said output system; and a satellite printing group (19) for first side printing assigned to said counter pressure cylinder in a rotational direction between the feed system and the output system, and at least one additional

satellite printing group (33) for at least single color second side printing is assigned to said counter pressure cylinder in the rotational direction thereof behind the output cylinder (b) and in front of the feed cylinder (29) said at least one additional satellite printing group (33) including an image plate carrying cylinder (33) for transferring ink to said counter pressure cylinder (23).

Fischer does not teach at least four satellite printing groups with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder and blanket cylinder, the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder. Germann teaches at least four satellite printing groups (See Figure 2) with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder (5) and blanket cylinder (4), the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder (Column 6, line 49). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer such that it includes at least four satellite printing groups with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder and blanket cylinder, the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder such that multiple colors and images can be printed as taught by Germann.

Referring to claim 2, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein the counter cylinder is provided with a gripper unit(G) which grabs a sheet.

Referring to claim 3, Fischer teaches all that is claimed as discussed in the above rejections, except for a satellite printing machine wherein up to ten satellite printing groups for first side printing and up to ten satellite printing groups for second side printing are assigned to the counter-pressure cylinder. Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine (Figure 1) with two satellite printing groups (19,20) on first side printing and second side printing. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify

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Fischer by duplicating parts and including up to ten satellite printing groups for first and second printing in order to further increase the number of images to the first and second sides of the webs processed in the first and second mode of operation.

Referring to claim 4, Fischer teaches all that is claimed as discussed in the above rejections, except for a satellite printing machine wherein the counter-pressure cylinder has a periphery of 500 to 3000 mm. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer by using a counter-pressure (23) with a periphery of 500 to 3000 mm so that the counter-pressure cylinder can be used in a printing machine of a different size.

Referring to claim 5, Fischer teaches all that is claimed, except for a satellite printing machine wherein at least four satellite groups include five satellite printing groups arranged along an upper arc of a circle of the counter-pressure cylinder said five satellite printing groups being mutually spaced at an angular distance of 35 degrees to 45 degrees to each other. As seen from Figure 1, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein the upper arc of a circle of the counter-pressure cylinder is provided with two satellite printing groups. It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Germann by duplicating parts and including five satellite printing groups around the upper arc of a circle of the counter-pressure cylinder at an angular distance of 35 degrees to 45 degrees in order to apply 5 different colors to the first and second sides of the webs processed in the first mode of operation.

Referring to claim 6, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein second side printing is effected by a transfer of ink in an area between the feed system (29) and a first one of

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said at least four satellite printing groups (19) which follows in the rotational direction of the counter-pressure cylinder (23). (See Column 4, lines 25-31).

Referring to claim 7, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein said first and second side printing occur simultaneously (See Column 4, line 24) in an area of said at least four satellite printing groups which follows the feed system in the direction of rotation of the counter-pressure cylinder.

Referring to claim 12, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein the feed system and the output system are disposed at essentially the same height above a base plane of the machine and define an approximately horizontal operating level. (See Figure 1).

Referring to claim 16, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein said first and second satellite printing group sets are operable for at least one of flatbed and/or rotogravure, letterpress, silk-screen, xerographic and ink jet printing. (See Column 1, lines 39-42).

Referring to claim 17, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine wherein the printing groups for first (19) and second printing (20) are arranged one after the other, for successive printing without intermediate drying (See Figure 1).

Referring to claim 18, a satellite printing machine where said angular distance is about 38 degrees (See Figure 1).

Referring to claim 21, Fischer teaches a satellite printing machine (See Figure 1) for printing sheets, comprising a feed system (29); an output system (b) a central counter pressure cylinder (23) disposed between said feed system and said output system; a first satellite printing group set (19 and 20) for first side printing, said first set of satellite printing groups being cooperative with said counter pressure cylinder and arranged along a first arcuate portion of said

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central counter pressure cylinder extending in a rotational direction between the feed system and the output system, and a second satellite printing group (33) for at least single color second side printing said second set of satellite printing groups being cooperative with said counter pressure cylinder and arranged along a second arcuate portion of said central counter pressure cylinder extending in a rotational direction between the feed system and the output system (See Figure 1), said at least one satellite printing group being operable to deposit ink onto said central counter pressure cylinder, the ink then being transferred therefrom to the second side of the sheets while transferred over said first arcuate portion of said central counter pressure cylinder. (See Column 4, lines 16-25).

Fischer does not teach at least four satellite printing groups Germann ('942) teaches at least four satellite printing groups (See Figure 2). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer such that it includes at least four satellite printing groups with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder and blanket cylinder, the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder for the advantage of printing multiple colors and images as taught by Germann.

Referring to claim 22, Fischer does not teach at least four satellite printing groups with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder and blanket cylinder, the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder. Germann teaches at least four satellite printing groups (See Figure 2) with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder (5) and blanket cylinder (4), the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder (Column 6, line 49). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer such that it includes

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at least four satellite printing groups with each satellite printing group including an image plate carrying cylinder and blanket cylinder, the counterpressure cylinder being in a form of a rubber blanket cylinder for the advantage of printing multiple colors and images as taught by Germann.

5. Claims 9 -11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer in view of Germann ('942) and in view of Knauer et al (5,772,804). Fischer and Germann teaches all that is claimed, as discussed in the above rejections. Referring to claim 9, they do not teach a satellite printing machine wherein said machine comprises a drive with toothed-wheel gearing. Knauer teaches a printing unit (See Figure 1) which comprises a drive with toothed-wheel gearing (18). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the gears of Fischer to include a drive with toothed-wheel gearing to aid in the adjustment of cylinders as taught by Knauer.

Referring to claim 10, Fischer and Germann do not teach a satellite printing machine wherein said machine comprises a drive with one servomotor. Knauer teaches a printing unit which comprises a drive with motors (30-33). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer to include a drive with motors to achieve axial mobility as taught by Knauer.

Referring to claim 11/9, Fischer and Germann ('942) do not teach satellite printing groups wherein the counter pressure cylinder includes a helical gear wheel, the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinder of the at least four satellite printing groups are driven by helical gear wheels which mesh with said helical gear wheel of the counter pressure cylinder; said helical gear wheel is sectioned to form a gear wheel section which meshes with a remaining section of the helical gear wheel said gear wheel section being movable in a direction of an axis

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thereof. Knauer teaches a printing unit driven by helical gear wheels which mesh with a helical gear wheel of the transfer cylinder, in that the gear wheel is sectioned and the gear wheel section, which meshes with the helical gear wheel, is movable in the direction of the axis. (See Column 3, lines 23-27). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer and Germann ('942) to include a drive whereby helical gear wheels mesh with a helical gear wheel of the counter-pressure cylinder, in that the gear wheel is sectioned and the gear wheel section, which meshes with the helical gear wheel, is movable in the direction of the axis to aid in rotating the cylinders simultaneously in the same direction as taught by Knauer.

6. Claims 8, 19 and 20 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer (4493255) in view of Germann (5136942) and in view of Germann (4633777).

Referring to claim 8, Fischer and Germann('942) teach all that is claimed as discussed in the above rejections except they do not teach a satellite printing machine wherein the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinders of the at least four satellite printing groups are in synchronous drive connection with the counter pressure-cylinder and jointly are adjustable in the peripheral alignment relative to the counter-pressure cylinder. Germann ('777) teaches teaches a satellite printing machine wherein the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinders of the at least four satellite printing groups are in synchronous drive connection with the counter pressure-cylinder and jointly are adjustable in the peripheral alignment relative to the counter-pressure cylinder (See Column 4, lines 29-38). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer and Germann ('942) such that the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinders of the at least four

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satellite printing groups are in synchronous drive connection with the counter pressure-cylinder and jointly are adjustable in the peripheral alignment relative to the counter-pressure cylinder for the advantage of providing adjustments of the distances between the various cylinders as taught by Germann ('777).

Referring to claims 19 and 20, Fischer and Germann ('942) do not teach that the feed system includes a feed cylinder and the output system includes an output cylinder. Germann ('777) teaches that the feed system includes a feed cylinder (2) and that the output system includes a output cylinder (10). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer and Germann by replacing its feed and output systems with the cylinders in Germann ('777) in order to provide rollers for easy input and output of the sheet as taught by Germann ('777).

7. Claim 11/8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fischer (4493255) in view of Germann (5136942) and in view of Germann (4633777) and further in view of Knauer (5,772,804).

Referring to claim 11/8, Fischer, Germann ('942) and Germann ('777) do not teach satellite printing groups wherein the counter pressure cylinder includes a helical gear wheel, the image plate carrying and blanket carrying cylinder of the at least four satellite printing groups are driven by helical gear wheels which mesh with said helical gear wheel of the counter pressure cylinder; said helical gear wheel is sectioned to form a gear wheel section which meshes with a remaining section of the helical gear wheel said gear wheel section being movable in a direction of an axis thereof. Knauer teaches a printing unit driven by helical gear wheels which mesh with a helical gear wheel of the transfer cylinder, in that the gear wheel is sectioned and the gear

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wheel section, which meshes with the helical gear wheel, is movable in the direction of the axis. (See Column 3, lines 23-27). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Fischer, Germann and Germann to include a drive whereby helical gear wheels mesh with a helical gear wheel of the counter-pressure cylinder, in that the gear wheel is sectioned and the gear wheel section, which meshes with the helical gear wheel, is movable in the direction of the axis to aid in rotating the cylinders simultaneously in the same direction as taught by Knauer.

Examiner Comments

8. Claims 1-12 and 16-22 are rejected. Claims 13-15 have been cancelled. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 and 16-22 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

9. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event,

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however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

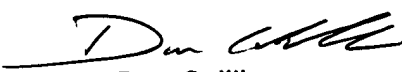
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Andrea Hence Evans whose telephone number is (703) 305-8427. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday; 8:30a-5:30p.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Hirshfeld can be reached on (703) 305-6619. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7722 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Andrea Hence Evans

AHE
August 4, 2003


Dan Colilla
Primary Examiner
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